

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John R. Witcher on August 11, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Amend **claim 31** renumbered as **claim 35**:

A non-transitory computer readable medium containing software for distributing processing among routing nodes capable of providing application level support during routing, the software comprising computer instructions to:

identify processing resources required to provide the application level support during routing for select traffic;

select at least one routing node capable of providing the processing resources required to provide the application level support for the select traffic wherein the at least one routing node is configured to include a control plane, a compute plane and a forward plane; and

facilitate routing of the select traffic through the at least one routing node capable of providing the processing resources required to provide the application level support,

wherein the at least one routing node provides the application level support for the select traffic while routing the select traffic in the compute plane.

Amend **claim 43** renumbered as **claim 47**:

A non-transitory computer readable medium containing software for distributing processing among multiple routing devices capable of providing application level support, the software comprising computer instructions to:

determine processing resources necessary for application level support of traffic to be routed;

monitor processing capacity available on a plurality of routing nodes capable of providing the application level support and routing the traffic;

identify at least two of the plurality of routing nodes having combined processing capacity to provide the application level support necessary for the traffic to be routed wherein the at least two of the plurality of routing nodes are configured to include a control plane, a compute plane and a forward plane; and

route the traffic in a manner allowing the at least two of the plurality of routing nodes to provide the processing for the application level support in the respective compute planes.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AVI GOLD whose telephone number is (571)272-4002. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. G./  
Examiner, Art Unit 2457

/ARIO ETIENNE/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2457